

# COCHISE COUNTY JAIL TRANSPORTATION

**Kenneth E. Bradshaw**  
– Jail Commander

**Ariel A. Monge**  
– Operations Lieutenant



# Ariel Monge, Operations Lieutenant

- Serving the Sheriff's Office for over 22 years
- 15 years as Jail Lieutenant
- Jointly oversee the daily operation of all three jail facilities alongside of the Administrative Lieutenant.
- From 2006-2007, supervised the Transportation Section as a Sergeant.

Served in several committees with other county jail administrators.

Participated in several policy and procedure audits with the National Institute for Jail Operations legal-based jail guidelines.



# TRANSPORTATION

The transportation section of the Cochise County Jail is responsible for the safe and secure transport of incarcerated inmates to various locations throughout Cochise County, the State of Arizona and on occasion out of state.



Transportation within Cochise County include but is not limited to:

- Superior Courts
- Justice Courts
- Routine Medical Appointments
- Assisting Public Safety
- ADA & SMI released inmate accommodations
- Sierra Vista Jail
- Douglas DOC
- Willcox Jail
- Local Hospitals

Transportation outside of Cochise County include but is not limited to:

- Various county jails, state prisons, & federal prisons
- Various mental healthcare providers & facilities
- Various medical providers, specialists, & facilities

Out of state transports are mainly writ pick-ups from federal prisons.

# Transportation Staff



The Transportation Section is made of six staff members.

- (1) Transport Corporal
- (5) Transportation Officers

When transporting inmates, these officers are required to ensure proper inmate-officer ratios.

Meeting proper ratios along with all transportation needs in and out of county can sometimes be impossible with just six officers.

We often utilize officers from other areas to accomplish the needs or utilize overtime to meet our transportation needs.

These six transportation officers also manage and coordinate most of the video courts.

# Transportation Policy



**The minimum staff/inmate ratio that shall be maintained for transportation outside of a detention facility are as follows:**

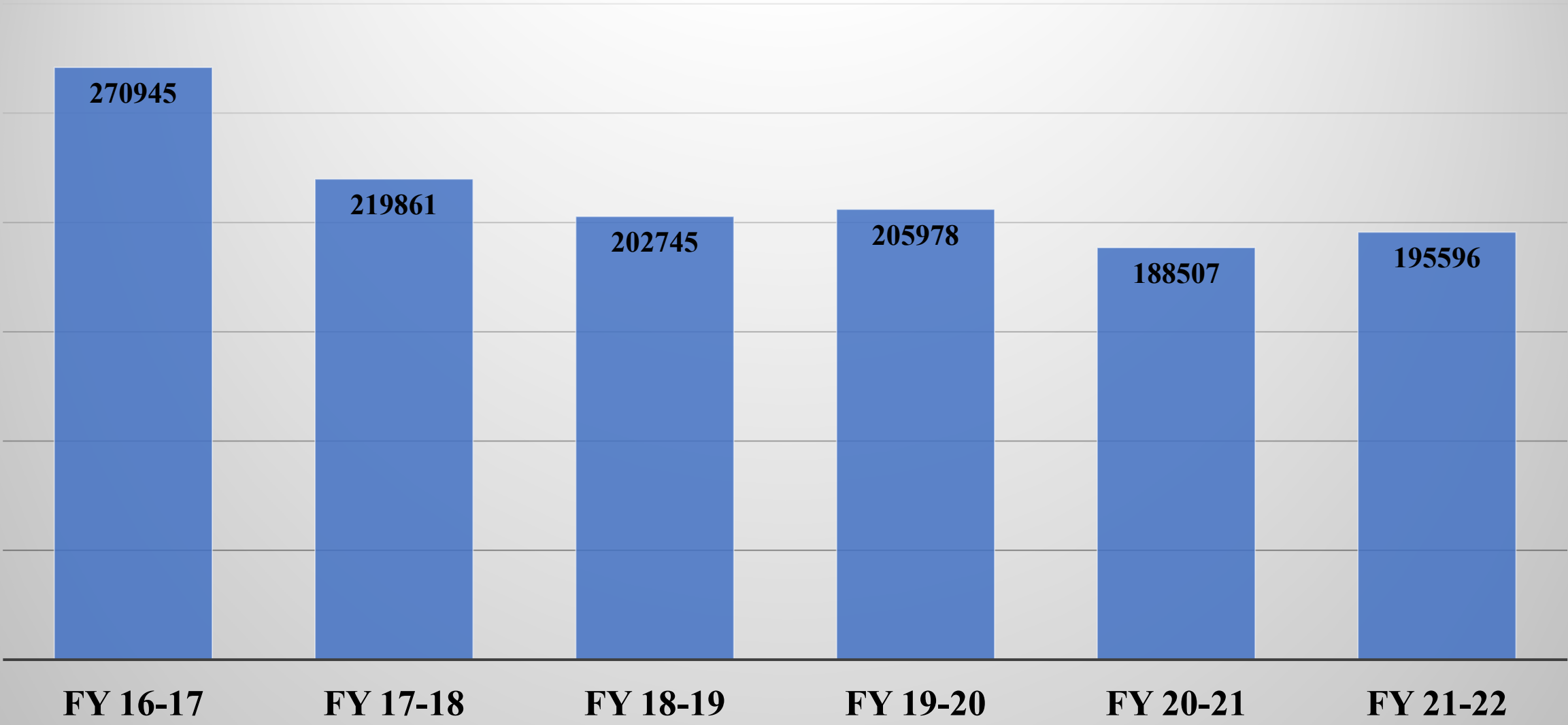
**1 – 2 inmates: 1 Officer**

**3 – 7 inmates: 2 Officers**

**More than 7 inmates: 3 Officers**

**When necessary and based on specific circumstances involving the inmate being transported, the ratio can change to ensure a safe and secure transport.**

# MILES TRAVELED





**Transportation plays a highly important role within the criminal justice system by ensuring incarcerated inmates are present for their scheduled court hearings.**

**Some of the challenges the transportation section experiences are:**

- **COVID requirements**
- **Low staffing levels**
- **Increase in population**
- **Inmate classification**
- **Inmate to officer ratios**
- **Multiple hearings running at the same time**
- **Specialty transports out of county**
- **Out of state pick ups from federal institutions.**



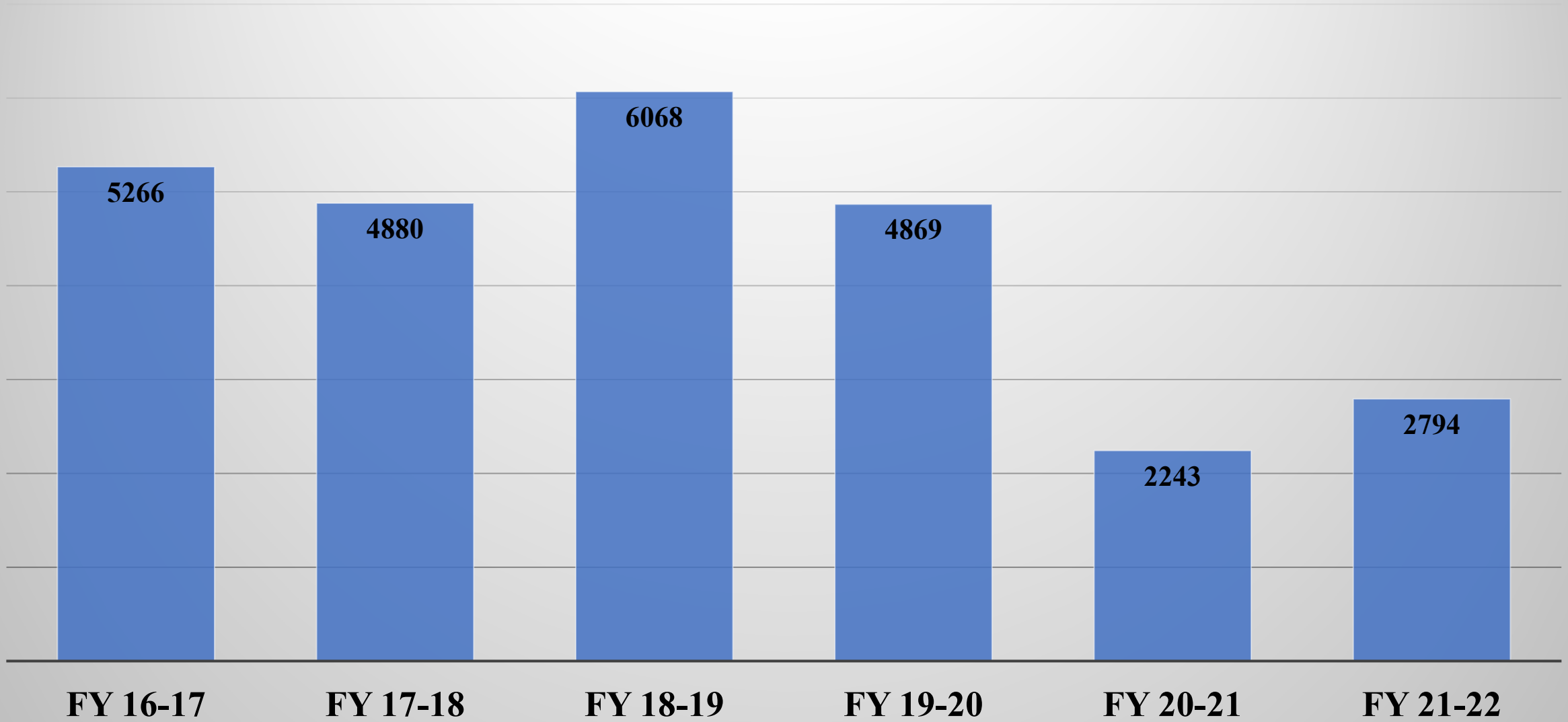
**An increase in needs over the years has brought an increase in transportation challenges.**

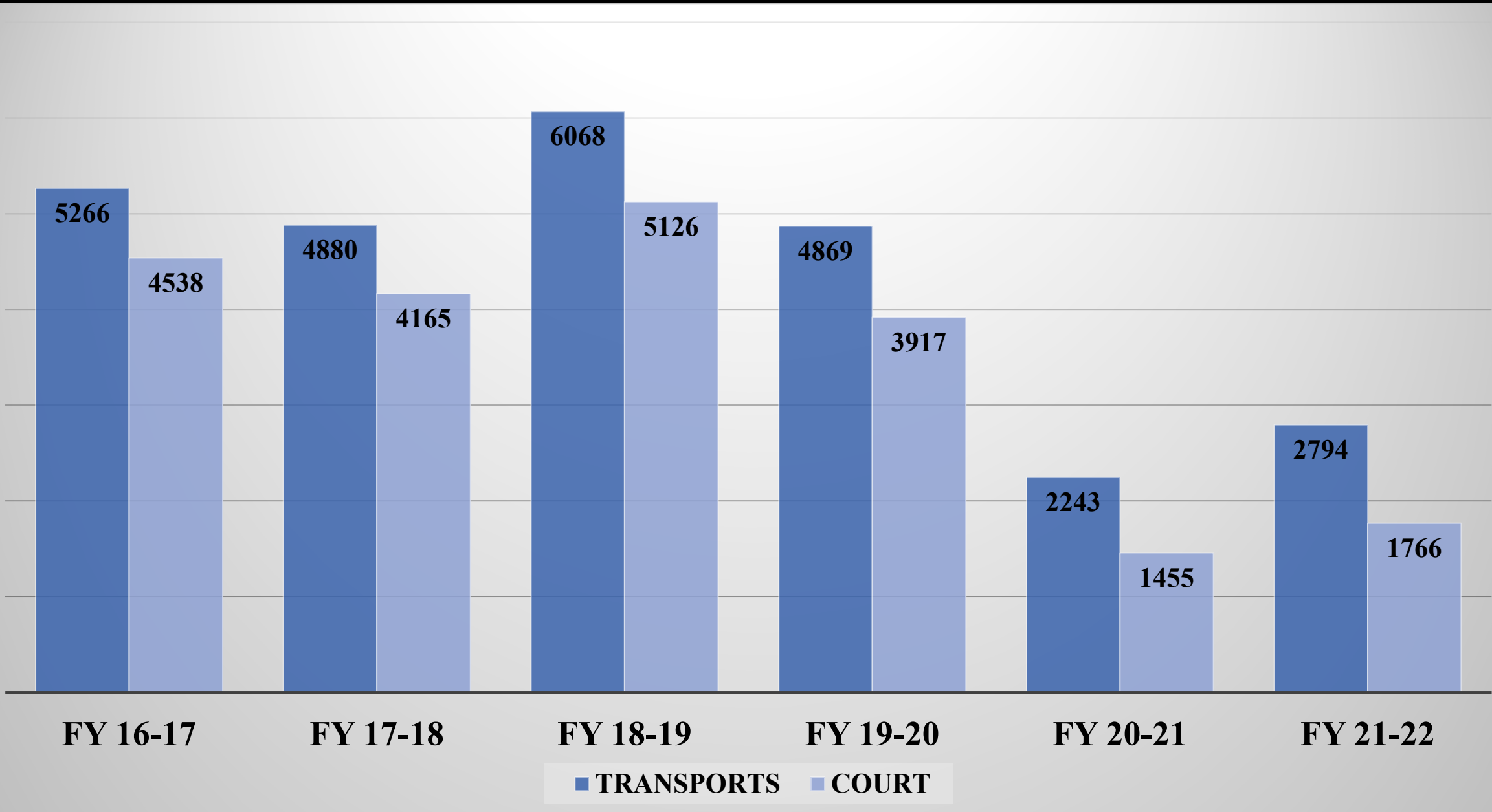
**COVID restrictions and Classification require various inmate populations to be kept separate when being transported.**

**As a result, more officers are needed as well as the use of additional vehicles is needed.**

**The increase with inmate population also increases the challenge of meeting COVID restrictions.**

# INMATES TRANSPORTED





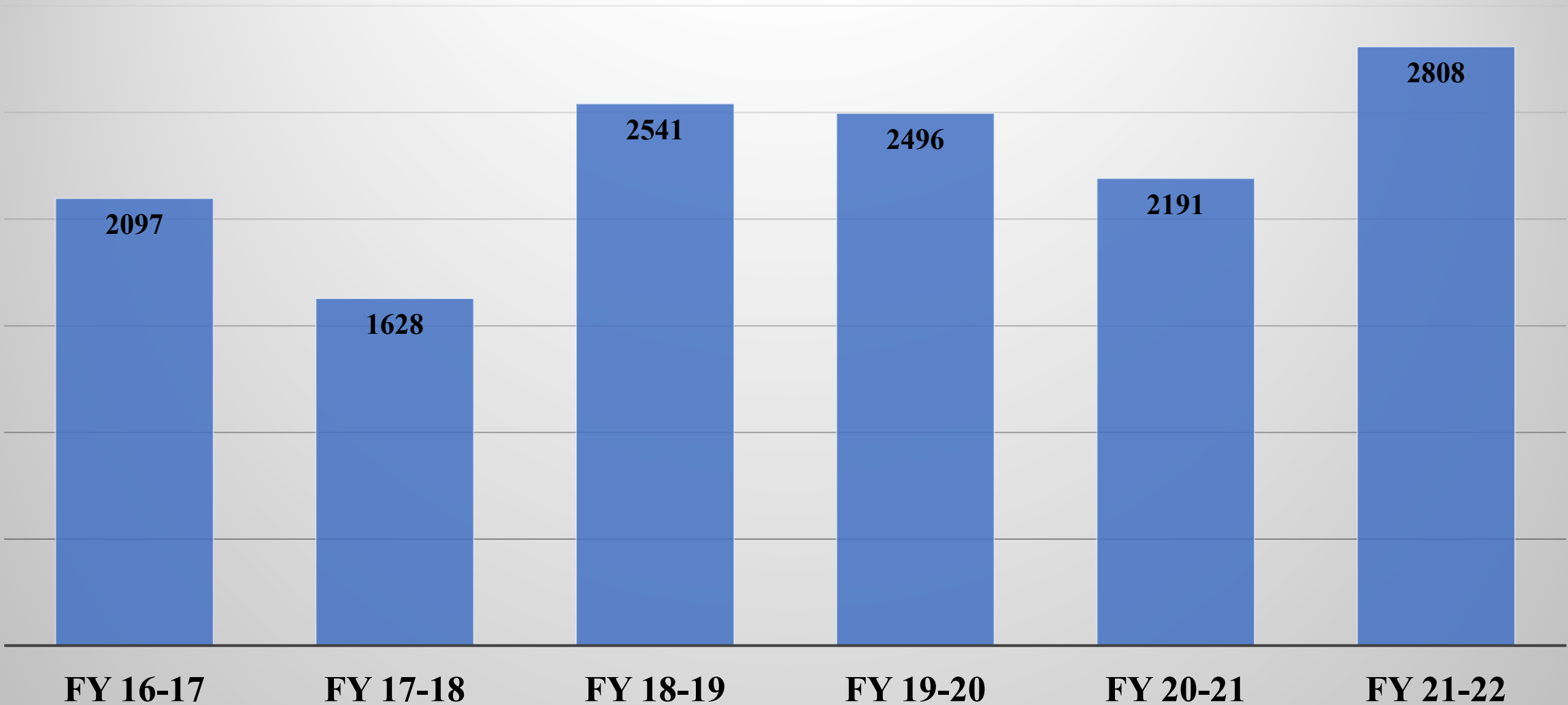
**The use of technology, strong working relationships and effective communication with all the courts enables the transportation section to work through some of the challenges.**

**The use of video conferencing equipment vastly reduces the number of inmates that needed to be physically transported to and from the courts.**

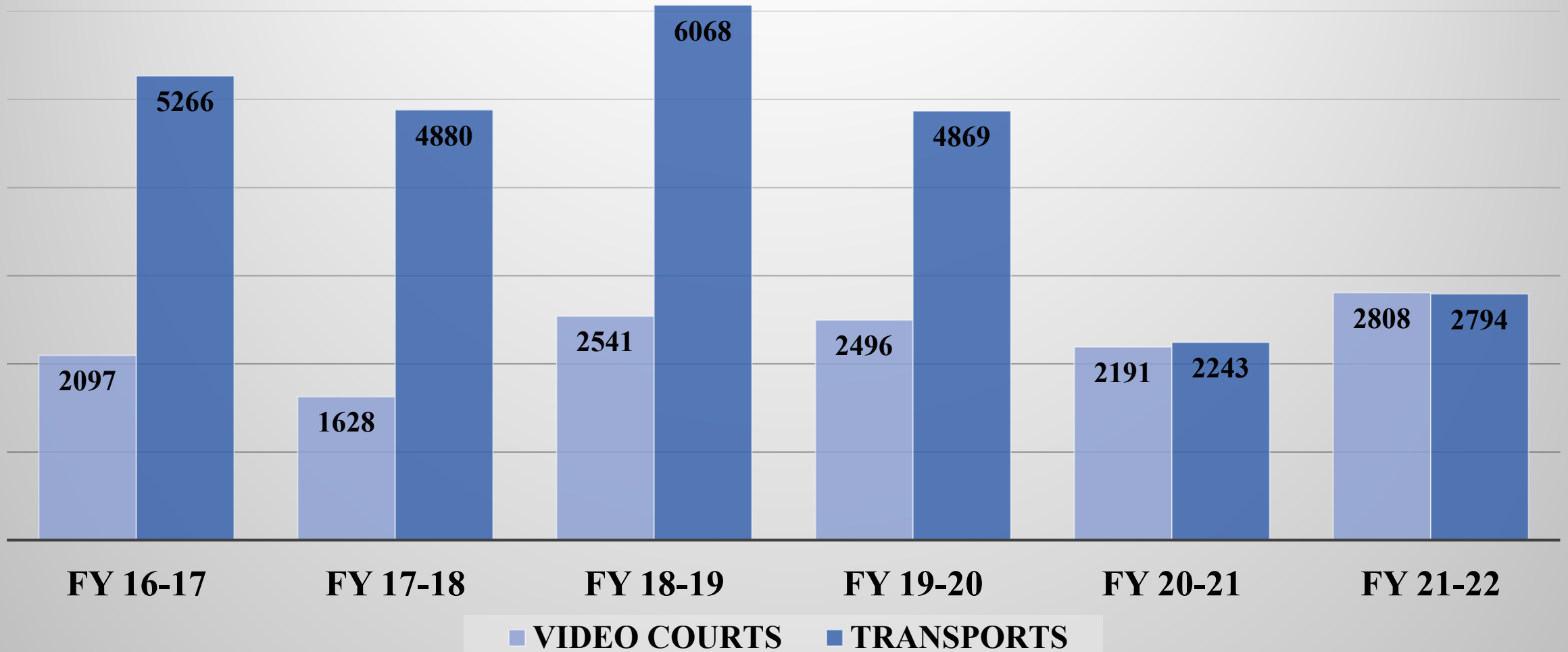
**Although video helps, we often experience technical challenges or failures, which result in the need to transport to court.**



# VIDEO COURTS



# VIDEO vs TRANSPORTS



**Due to limited resources or the lack of mental healthcare providers in Cochise County; law enforcement is left with no other option but to book into jail those individuals suffering from mental illness.**

**Over the years we have experienced an increase in SMI inmates and as result, we have also seen an increase in specialty transports outside of Cochise County.**



**Transporting inmates suffering from serious mental illness often, if not always, requires (2) officers to ensure the safety of the officers, the inmate, medical staff, and most importantly the public.**

**These specialty transports occur during the week and usually at the same time that court transportation is also needed.**



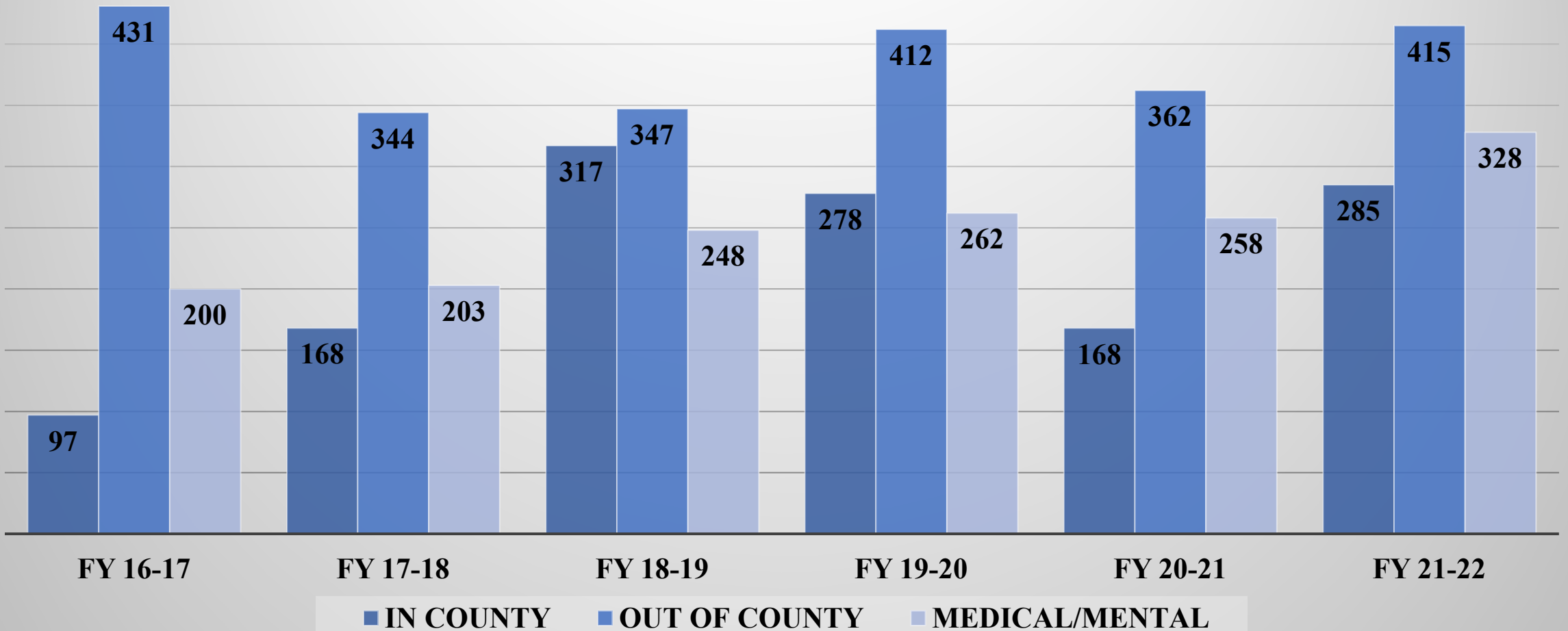
**Most medical transportation needs can be accomplished within Cochise County, however there are instances requiring transportation to an out of County provider.**

**Medical Transports include but are not limited to:**

- **X-rays**
- **Dental**
- **Orthopedic**
- **Dialysis**
- **Cardiac**
- **Neurology**
- **Emergency Room**



# NON-COURT TRANSPORTS



# **Increase in Population**

**We are currently experiencing record numbers in population.**

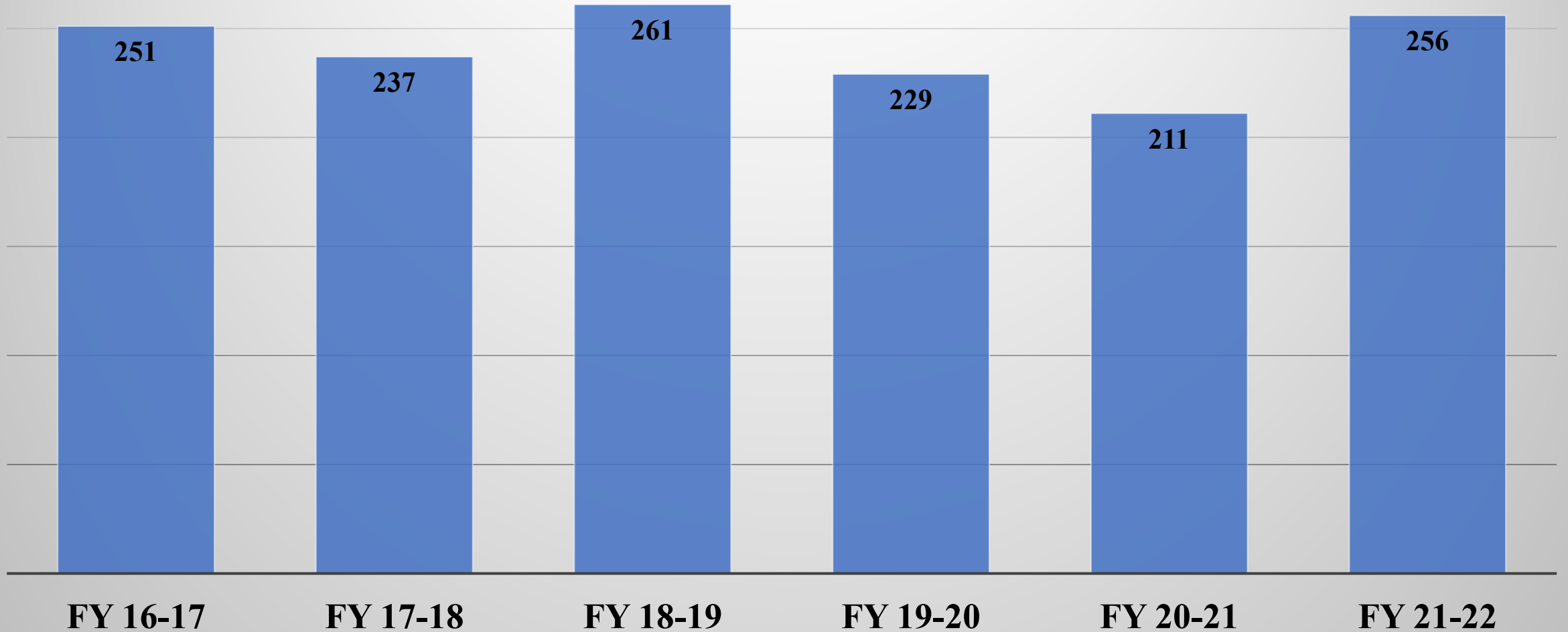
**Most of the recent arrests have been for felonies and most of the arrestees are not released after their initial appearance.**

**This increase in inmate population has created an increase in the caseload for all the courts, public attorney offices, probation offices, and of course transportation needs.**

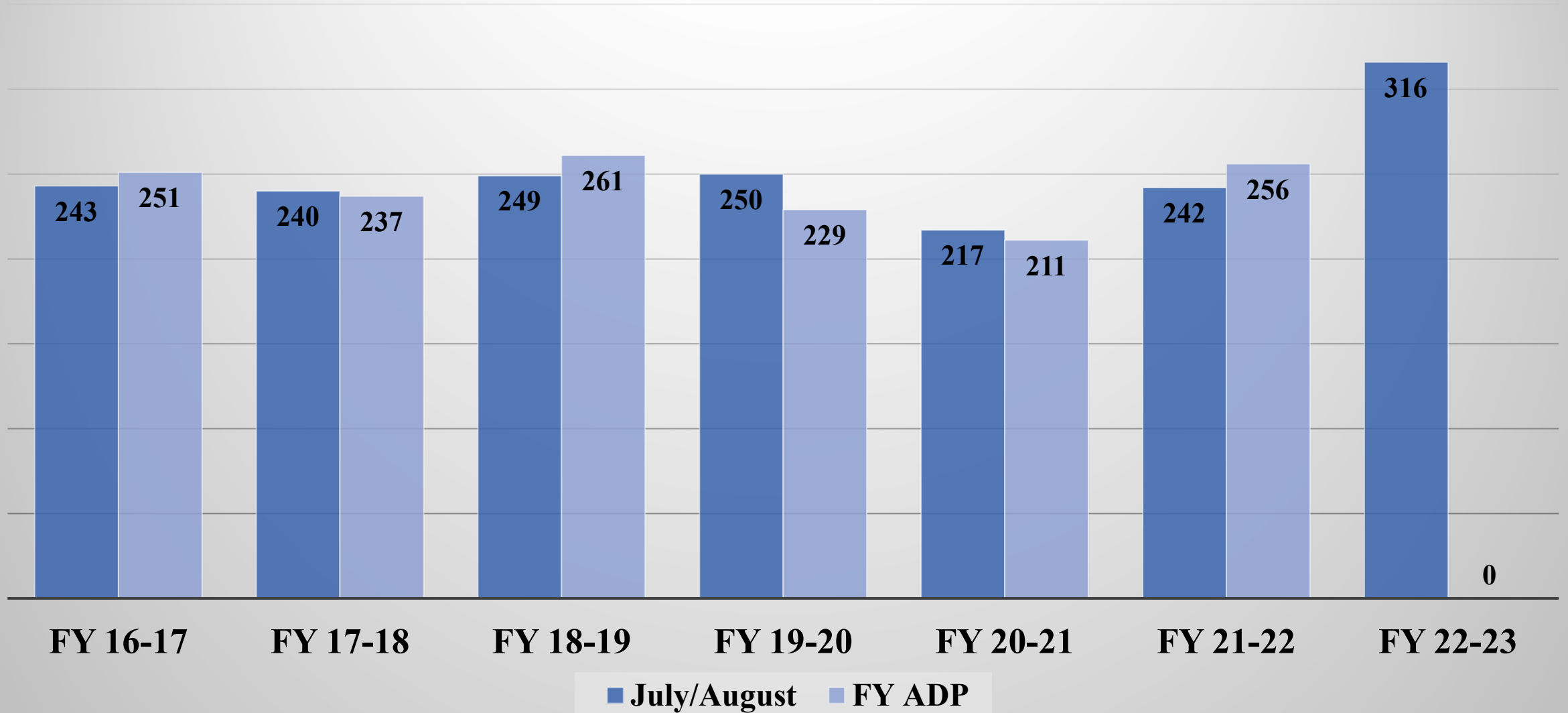
**The size of the facility plays a minimal role in the number of transports; population, classification, and special needs are the major factors.**



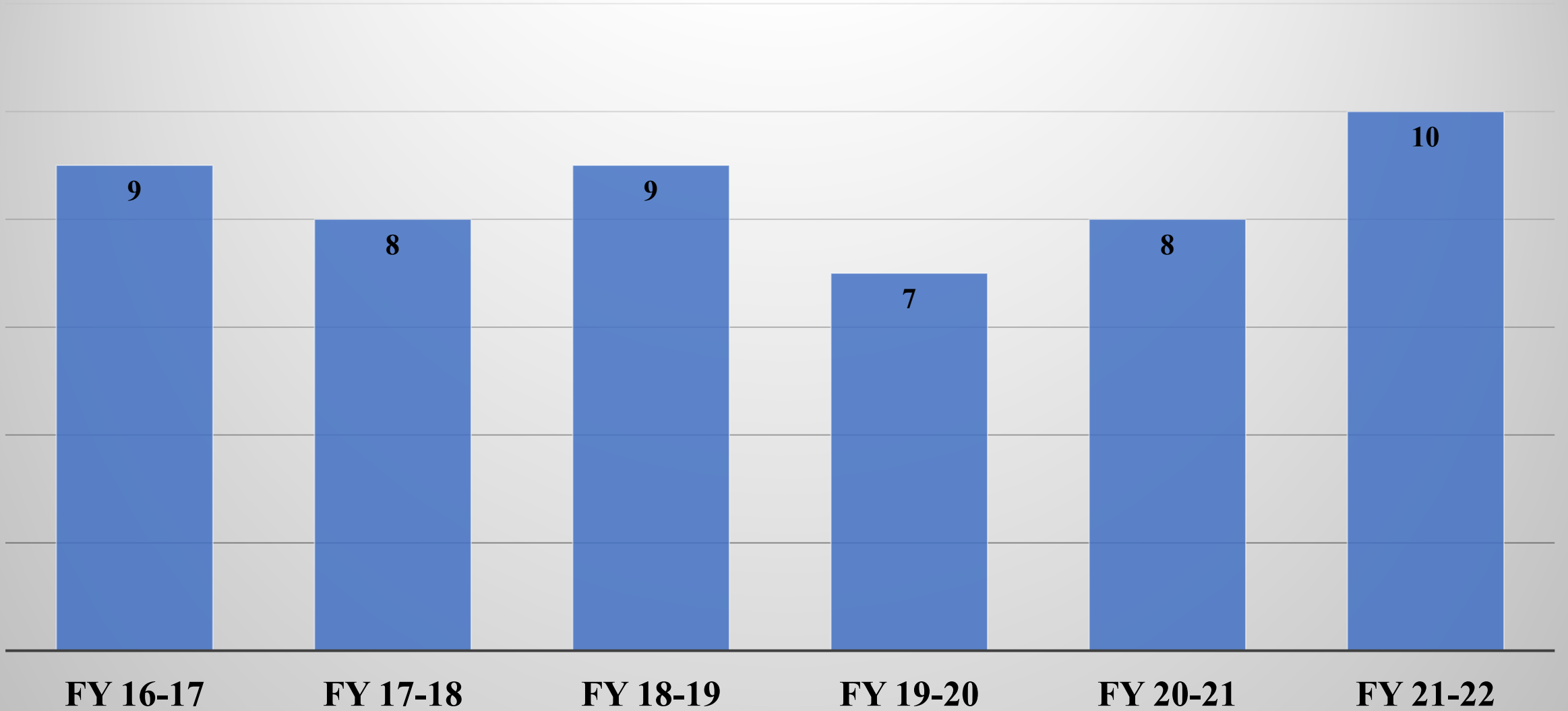
# AVERAGE DAILY POPULATION



# AVERAGE DAILY POPULATION



# AVERAGE DAYS SERVED



# SHORT TERM SOLUTIONS

- **Utilize non-transport staff on their regular scheduled days off and compensate with overtime.**
- **Develop ways to improve the quality of video technology and continue to use video over transporting as much as possible.**



# LONG TERM SOLUTIONS

- **Increase the number of staff assigned to the Transport Section without reducing the number of line staff.**
- **Continue to use video over transporting.**



The background of the slide features a large, semi-transparent seal of the Cochise County Sheriff's Office. The seal is circular and contains the text "COCHISE COUNTY" at the top, "SHERIFF'S OFFICE" in the center, and "ARIZONA" at the bottom. It also includes the date "EST. 1881" and the word "OFFICE" below the central text. The seal is surrounded by a decorative border.

**Determining future projections is difficult because populations are unpredictable.**

**There is no indication we will see a decrease with the incarceration of individuals that are SMI or individuals with substance abuse.**

**Medical needs will continue to be case by case.**